

CLMPTO 07/01/2003 GB

Claims 1 – 21 have been canceled.

22. (original) In a pipette, a mechanism for detecting the type of pipette tip being mounted to a pipette nozzle including:
a sleeve mechanism surrounding said nozzle, at least one of said sleeve mechanism and said nozzle being mounted to be selectively retracted when in contact with a tip as a tip is pressed on said nozzle to be mounted thereto, each tip type having a different base configuration which results in a difference in the relative displacement of the nozzle to the sleeve mechanism, and a mechanism for detecting such difference in relative displacement to thus identify tip type.

23. (original) A mechanism as claimed in claim 22 wherein said sleeve has a selected stroke, and wherein said mechanism for detecting includes a sensor generating an output when the sleeve is retracted for its selected stroke and a detector for nozzle retraction, said detector output, when said sensor generates an output, being indicative of tip type.